

Claims:

1. A trunk piston marine engine lubricating oil composition for a medium speed compression-ignited (diesel) marine engine wherein the composition is dispersant-free and has a Total Base Number (TBN) of 25 or greater, and comprises:
 - (A) an oil of lubricating viscosity, in a major amount, and added thereto:
 - (B) an oil-soluble overbased metal detergent additive, as the sole overbased metal detergent, consisting of one or more aromatic carboxylates, in a minor amount, and
 - (C) an antiwear additive, in a minor amount.
2. A trunk piston marine engine lubricating oil composition for a medium speed compression-ignited (diesel) marine engine wherein the composition is dispersant-free and has a Total Base Number (TBN) of 25 or greater, and comprises:
 - (A) an oil of lubricating viscosity, in a major amount, and added thereto:
 - (B) an oil-soluble overbased metal detergent additive consisting of, as the sole metal detergent, one or more hydrocarbyl-substituted salicylates, in a minor amount, and
 - (C) an antiwear additive comprising a dihydrocarbyl dithiophosphate metal salt, in a minor amount.
3. The composition as claimed in claim 1 or claim 2 further comprising a fuel oil with a residual fuel content, in a minor amount.
4. The composition as claimed in any one of the preceding claims having a TBN in the range of 25 to 100, such as 25 or 30 to 60.
5. The composition as claimed in any one of the preceding claims wherein component (B) is present in the composition in an amount in the range of 0.5 to 30 mass %.

6. The composition as claimed in any one of the preceding claims wherein the one or more overbased metal detergent has or have a TBN in the range of 60 to 600, such as 100 to 450, preferably 160 to 400.
7. The composition as claimed in any one of the preceding claims wherein the one or more overbased metal detergent is or are calcium salicylates.
8. The composition as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein the antiwear additive is a zinc salt.
9. The use of additives (B) and (C) as defined in any one of the preceding claims in a dispersant-free trunk piston marine engine oil lubricating composition having a TBN of 25 or greater to (a) suspend asphaltene components in the composition, or (b) control piston deposits, or both (a) and (b), when used in a medium speed compression-ignited marine engine.
10. A method of lubricating a medium speed compression-ignited marine engine which comprises supplying to the engine the truck piston marine engine oil lubricating composition as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 8.